NYE IS IN BUNCOMBE

ABDOMINAL SURGERY AND WHERE IT FIRST ORIGINATED.

The Peculiarities of Genius as Illustrated by the Favorite Discourse of Elder Rumley-Story of a Man Who Looked Upon Soda Water For the First Time.

[Copyright, 1865, by Edgar W. Nye.] AT HOME, SUMMER OF '95. It is not generally known that in this immediate neighborhood the first steps were taken in the direction of abdomi-

nal surgery, a branch of the cience which has since grown so great. It was not so many years ago in these mountains that a party of young men on an autumn evening started gayly off with their musical instruments to serenade the youth and beauty of Buncombe

Chestnuts and green apples were falling anon in the chaste moonlight, and here and there little private jag foundries sent up their thin blue coils of smoke to mock the internal revenue officer and bring the flush of shame to the nose of the pioneer.

Between green apples and the twanging of the lyre the evening wore pleasantly on till at last one of the young



ben grossly insulted the violinist, when quick as thought a pruning knife flashed forth, and with a shrill cry the offender fell to earth with his whole system of doing business exposed to the prying eyes of the world.

The pruning knife not only slashed open the whole abdominal cavity, but laid the stomach itself open, while at the same time the curve or book at the end of the blade drew the stomach out on the grass in such a way as to make the gent's supper menu no longer a secret.

Naturally the wound was regarded as fatal. No one had ever heard at that time of repairing a fractured rennet, and, far from medical assistance, weeping friends gathered about the young ma prostrate form, for every one realized that even this phenomenal climate, which for years has euchred the cemetery out of its dividends, could not save

It was at this supreme moment that the woman of the house came forth and honored her sex (this is a matter of history, and the facts and photographs are in the hands of Dr. Hilliard, Asheville,

Carefully removing the contents and preface of the stomach, consisting of chestnuts and Rhode Island greenings, she eleaned the cut, and then taking the catgut "E" string of the violin she softened it, and with a needle sewed up the stomach, returned it to the vast watch pocket and then sewed that up carefully also.

Of course she did not embroider a bunch of goldenrod over the wound, but yet the job was on the hole a tidy one. A physician from Asheville came the next day, looked at the patient, took his temperature and smoking tobacco, said, "Poch!" and went away.

But the man stubbornly lived on and on, and today a surgeon thinks no more of prying into a man's true inwardness than he would of pulling a tooth.

This was the pioneer operation for grafting the catgut on the human being. What the result may be in future generations if we continue to do this of course even science cannot foretell. The scientist cannot even tell us what one's felines may be under such circumstances (Scotch plaid joke).

They can only go on crocheting people together here, and assisted by the most glorious maximum temperature perhaps that ever laid out of doors death is deprived of his stinger and "the lunger" possesses the land.

But should we not learn a valuable lesson from this? I think so! Should we not recognize the fact that a woman walked first into this untrod-

den field of science? Of toune I would not advise woman to size on masse had march into addominal surgery or go about disabling whole orchestras for the purpose of sewing up and backstitching or buttonholing or herring boning the yawning chasms of humanity, but let them have an equal pull at the great intellectual food supply, so that useful knowledge may not be solely in the hands or heads of one sex.

Let us remember that the world never suffered so cruelly as at the time when the clergy turned the key on education. Let no class, nation, denomination or sex undertake to say who shall control the knowledge supply. Those who at first undertook it are year by year singing lower and lower.

A friend and fellow student who was

expelled from Harvard at the same time that I was and for the same cause-viz, catching a crab in the middle of a raceand who has for years held out stoutly against co-education, wrote me last week a long, heated letter, in which he spelled diseases "dezzes."

He prints a paper which I subscribe for, tegether with another man, on ac-

count of its style. No one who aims to be literary should be without it.

He wrote up a pienie in July and referred to the gorgeous supply of victuals brought by the picnickers "for the purpose of sustaining hunger."

Such a man is either a humorist or a plumb fool. A committee ought to go and examine him. Receiving transportation last month for an excursion, he ladles out the following neat encomium

in his paper: "This was well enjoyed by the many

publicity and attraction of Editors and distinguish men of ability on this eventful day. It seems generally speaking from what a little act can do to attract attention on the part of the trip of this

kind is very highly appreciated.
"We can do nothing better than to thank the head Managers for their gracefulness and ease of manner and responsibility for the care of the passengers for safetyness and round trip excursion."

Referring to peculiarities of genius, and especially in the matter of methods of expression, let me say that Elder Rumley, the colored preacher of Asheville, will be long remembered after he has passed away. His favorite discourse is called "The Dry Bones," and he has preached it by request of Dr. Will Hilliard several hundred times, it is said. He is a singular looking man of African descent and speaks without notes.

I will not undertake to describe or furnish his dialect, for it would only be confusing, and negro dialect has had its day. The cockney English minstrel may use it years after the American colored man has abandoned it. But it has surely had its day in America.

"Brothers and sisters," said Elder Rumley the other evening, pausing and throwing back his head so that his nose was in a line with the tops of his shoulders, "you remind me tonight somehow as you sit there of a great big, mon-

strous bouquet! "Every color of the rainbow is there from the blackest, unadultered plantation nigger, in whose veins there runs the unpolluted blood of the genuine imported and uncrockable coon, to the pallid and highly amalgamated dude.

"I don't like all this, brothers and sisters. It is no way to live. The Scripture teaches us that we cannot make one hair white or black, and if it is wrong for the hydrogen blond to sashay into society with bogus hues it is wrong for the Ethiopian to change his skin. It is a humble life that the black man leads in the sight of God, but he is Duke of Buncombe County compared with that straw colored dude sitting in the third seat from the back, next to the aisle. Yes, indeed! And that brings us back to our text tonight, brethren: If the leopard cannot change its spots, nor the Ethiopian his skin, where shall the sinner and the ungodly appear?"

Eccentricities of expression are not at all peculiar to any section or any people, but I cannot close this letter without referring to an incident which took place in a handsome drug store in a North Carolina city.

Not far from the door stood a very showy soda fountain, with a beautiful jet of water spouting two feet high inside a glass case on top of the marble fountain and making a noise like escaping steam. On the counter was a revolving squirt busy rinsing tumblers and also making a hissing noise. Three tall young "razorbacks" from the timber came in and bought a glass of soda in partnership. It seems like lying to say this, but it is the everlasting truth,

The druggist, who is my authority, said he served the beaker of soda to the



DRINKING IT "BILIN." one to drink first, and as the fizzling, sizzling, hissing, sissing glass was held up to the tall clay biter's nose one of his companions, an overgrown primrose 8 feet high, with a neat new calico rag on his sore toe, jumped toward him wildly to stay his hand.

"My God, Pink," said be, "be you goin to drink the like o' that and hit a

bilin?" Those desiring absolute purity and innocence of court intrigue or the guile so common to the madding crowd should look us over before going elsewhere.



GOING HOME TO HANNAH.

That She Would Be Glad to Have Him Return.

When he had asked me the way to the Forty-second street ferry and added that he wanted to catch a West Shore train

"Hanner was purty nigh right about New York." "Tho is Hannah, and what did she

tell you?" I asked.

"Hanner's my old woman. I'd bin wantin to cum down to New York fur ten y'ars, but sunthin was allus happenin. I finally made up my mind to cum arter the corn had bin heed out, and I got here last Thursday. Hanner said I'd be robbed of my watch." "And were you?"

"I was. Yes, sir, I lost it the fust day I got here. Somebody stole it while I was gawpin around. Hanner will grin when I hev to tell her about it. She also said I'd be robbed of my money."

"And did that happen?" "She did. Yes, sir. A feller got my wallet while I was ridin on a street car, and I never knowed it till he was gone. Hanner will laugh herself to death when I tell her about it. She also told me I'd git lost."

killed."

into a fight and git licked." "But you didn't?" I asked. "Didn't I! Waal, but I did! I had two fights and got licked in both of 'em. Hanner will lay down and roll over

I asked.

git hum on. I've bin down here and had fun and a good time, and now I'm goin to see Hanner. She'll be standin at the gate and lookin fur me, and the let along up to her she'll look me down and all over and say, 'No Samuel, if you've made a fule long 'nuff cum in here and git a blackberry pie and a glass o' milk and then 'tend to them hogs and caives and corn and taters and ask the Lord to fur-

Hard Times Indeed.

give you fur bein the reckless critter ye

about Jimmie Watts." "What is?"

"You know he can beat any of us boys swimming."

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"Got lost over a dozen times, sir. Yes, sir, got reg'rly turned around and was scart 'most to death. Hanner will throw up both hands and shout over that. She also said I'd git run over and

"But you still live." "Yes; kinder live, but I've bin run over five times and purty badly bruised. Hanner will almost bust when I show her my bruises. She also said I'd git

on the floor when she sees this skinned "And so you are on your way home?"

"Yes, goin hum. Met a feller I knowed and borrowed money 'nuff to

ar'!' '-Detroit Free Press.

"Mamma, I think it's awful funny

"Well, he dasn't brag about it at home, 'cause his daddy'd lick 'im for goin."-Chicago Record.

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